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Battle in Bushwick

Art for neighborhood's sake. A graffiti tagger known only as "Zexor" has taken umbrage at murals he says are selling out the neighborhood. PAGE 02

Smiley faces cover the tag of a graffiti writer who has defaced murals in Bushwick. / BESS ADLER, METRO

Did an umbrella detain the 7 train?

PAGE 04

The story behind Nick Hornby's new novel

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Burke: Belichick the best of all time

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1 NEWS

Top 3

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2 'VIDEO Mariah Carey lip-sync fail caught on camera'

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Smiley faces cover up tags of a graffiti writer who has been defacing murals in Bushwick. / BESS ADLER, METRO

Artists paint each other out on mural

Tag wars. A tagger battles with muralists over the character of rapidly changing Bushwick.

A silent war of stylized words is raging on the walls of rapidly changing Bushwick, only this time the culprits aren't rival gangs but artists with dueling cultural agendas.

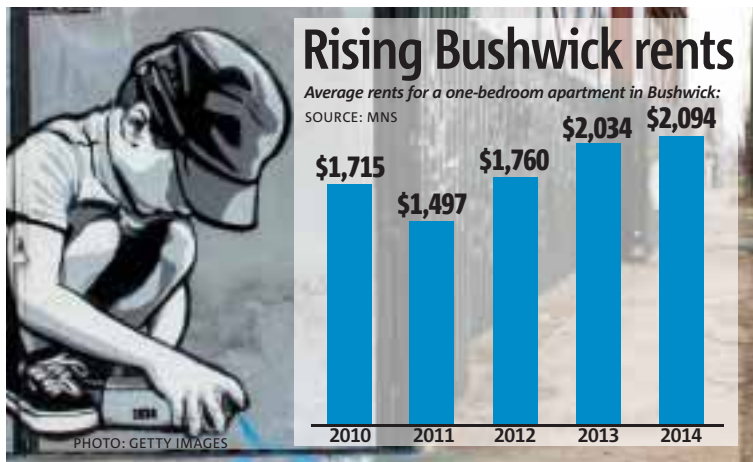
Giant murals by artists invited from around the world now decorate a stretch of Troutman Street between Wyckoff and St. Nicholas that until 2012 was decorated with "for lease" signs and bursts of graffiti.

As the neighborhood has morphed into a home for organic brunches, art mavens and Williamsburg overflow, at least one local has taken it upon himself to revive old-school street culture.

A graffiti writer known as "Zexor" has been targeting murals that he's described on social media as an attack on the Bushwick that existed before the coffee shops and yoga studios.

He often writes "real art" or "real Bushwick" alongside his tag.

"I am NYC. I am Brooklyn. I am Bushwick. I am everything you hate and love," he wrote in early January on one mural immediately in front of the



Jefferson Street L train stop. "I am freedom. I am art. I am Zexor."

Zexor's own tags were swiftly painted over with large smiley faces, although no one Metro spoke to knew who was responsible for the smileys.

Local police and leaders were equally unaware of any conflict raging between newcomers and longtimers on either street walls or online.

On his Instagram account, Zexor lashed out at the Bushwick Collective, a group formed by local resident Joseph Ficalora in 2012 that contracts artists to visually enrich the blighted area he grew up in. Zexor accused Ficalora of abetting gentrification.

Median home prices jumped 31 percent last year in Bushwick, accord-

ing to real estate company MNS, which listed the average monthly rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Bushwick at \$2,048.

"Preach your broken windows theory bull—t somewhere else," Zexor wrote.

Ficalora did not respond to multiple requests for comment but did post a statement to followers on social media, saying his group has never had "an agenda" and is willing to engage with folks upset with the collective's work.

Nadine Whitted, Bushwick's Community Board district manager, defended the murals and Ficalora's work.

"Art is art. Graffiti is graffiti," she said. "There's a distinct difference."

Whitted said the neighborhood has struggled

with an influx of newcomers and nightlife that older residents say disrupts local culture and drives up real estate prices. If the new graffiti really is about fighting those changes, Whitted said the community is in for a longer conversation.

"This is not going to be an easy fix," she said.

Back on the corner of Wyckoff and Jefferson, the mural on which Zexor left his screed was eventually restored. The image still shows a woman with her hands out, one reading "Earth" and the other "Revolution."

And Zexor's tag was painted over with large yellow letters that read "Evolve."



CHESTER SORIA
@chestersoria
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Quoted



"People will spend money on it because they want to live in the neighborhood, where there are cool murals and they can be associated with the cool."

Rebecca Brown, 20,
a one-week Bushwick resident



"I have no idea what it means, the fact that this type of artwork is often denoted as graffiti. You can kind of get away with that and still live here, and it boosts up real estate prices."

Marcos Gasc, 22,
a one-year Bushwick resident



"This area is a great area. I have everything I need: a hospital, restaurants, supermarkets. The murals are very, very important. It is beautiful color and brings beautiful thoughts."

Harry Martinez, 53,
a 35-year Bushwick resident

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Uber

TLC offers for-hire drivers chance to become legit

Uber and other for-hire drivers can now become yellow cab drivers if their cars are less than two years old.

The Taxi and Limousine Commission said up to 400 drivers will be able



The next-gen NYC taxi / FILE

to participate in a test program as long as their car is already used as a for-hire vehicle.

The city wants to help drivers transition between the cab and for-hire industries and "maximize their economic opportunities," said a TLC spokesperson.

Since 1996, only new cars can be used as yellow cabs.

Drivers must also

purchase or lease a medallion.

Average price for a medallion was about \$872,000 last fall, according to the New York Times. Fleet owners charge up to \$132 a shift for drivers to rent a medallion, according to New York World, a data journalism project out of the Columbia Journalism School.

WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE



Passengers wait for shuttle service outside a 7 train station. / @GREGMOCKER, VIA TWITTER

Umbrella to blame for 7 train woes

Transit. A short-circuit on the third rail, possibly caused by a dropped umbrella, halted service on the 7 train Monday morning.



Platforms quickly emptied.

MILES DIXON

It's a mystery worthy of Inspector Rihanna. Did a fallen umbrella strike the third rail in Manhattan, causing a train to stall near Queensboro Plaza and the complete shutdown of the 7 line?

That is the question rush-hour commuters want answered. Among others.

Another burning question: You're raising fares to \$2.75 for this service?

City and MTA officials gave mixed messages yesterday on why the entire 7 line was offline. Joe Esposito, the head of City Hall's emergency management command, said: "Someone dropped an umbrella on the track,

it hit the third rail and knocked out the servers. Then what happened because of the non-running of the trains, an icing condition built up on the rails, so then we had to de-ice those rails."

MTA spokesman Kevin Ortiz said NYC Transit is still investigating.

He refuted assertions from passengers on stranded trains that they couldn't find out what was happening, insisting it's the agency's policy that in crises like these, conductors are trained to properly communicate with passengers.

JOHN A. OSWALD
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

Tweeted

On Twitter, criticism came fast and furious — and often filled with expletives.

- "suggest @MTA make some good use of Twitter to notify stuck

#7 train riders who are tweeting they are stuck for 2 HOURS #communication" @GILLYARCHT

- "F--- the #mta. #7train" @BROOKLYNMIKE21



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What snow, asks SI groundhog Chuck?

Weather or not.

New York's own groundhog stays away from Mayor de Blasio, predicts an early spring.



De Blasio stood at arms length Monday. / FLICKR

"Chuck says spring is coming!" Mayor Bill de Blasio said at the Staten Island Zoo Monday morning as snow and sub-freezing temperatures slammed into the city.

Staten Island Chuck, New York's own groundhog weather forecaster, didn't see his shadow after he peeked from a new glass pen as the mayor stood a good six feet away.

The mayor returned to the zoo for the first time since he dropped last year's furry weather forecaster. That Chuck — actually a female named Charlotte — died a week later from in-

ternal injuries, though zoo officials were reluctant to say the fall from de Blasio's heavily gloved clutches was the cause. It might have died from an unrelated fall after last year's ceremonies, the zoo said last fall.

"We had a lot of people working — and based on consultations with the zoo — have come up with a new, progressive, exciting approach to groundhog

diplomacy on this day," de Blasio told reporters.

"Good news all around. Chuck, I want to thank you for this new approach," the mayor added after he unfurled a scroll that read "Spring is coming."

"I think we finally understand each other."



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Wintry blanket covers seagulls, commuters and tourists alike

New York was a snowy wonderland Monday, as about 5 inches of snow fell on the city, much of it piling up in sub-freezing temperatures. Tuesday will be mostly sunny, with a high near 24. A west wind at about 9 mph will make it feel like zero to 10 degrees. / MILES DIXON, METRO

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Nation's number one big city destination

While three in four tourists to the Big Apple were from the United States, 12.2 million people came to NYC from across the globe. Britain, Canada, Brazil and France still sends over the most visitors, while the number of Chinese tourists is estimated to have climbed to 740,000 in 2014.

	2013	2014
Total visitors to NYC	54.3 million	56.4 million
Domestic visitors	42.9 million	44.2 million
International visitors	11.4 million	12.2 million
Total economic impact	\$58.7 billion	\$61.3 billion
NYC tax revenue earned	\$3.5 billion	\$3.7 billion
Tourism supported jobs	348,000	359,000
NYS tax revenue earned	\$1.6 billion	\$1.7 billion
Avg. hotel room rate	\$291	\$295
Avg. hotel occupancy	88.5%	89%
Room nights sold	30.2 million	32.4 million
Hotel rooms	93,248	102,000



GRAPHIC BY BILLY BECERRA, METRO
SOURCE: THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Astoria murder. Croat historian killed over real estate deal: NYPD

The man shot to death in Astoria Park over the weekend was killed by an acquaintance after a real estate deal soured, police said on Monday.

William Klinger, 42, a Croatian-born historian of communist Yugoslavia, was shot twice in the head Saturday.

Klinger and his alleged

killer, Alexander Bonich, started arguing in the park. Klinger tried to leave, but Bonich ordered him to stop. When he didn't, Bonich shot him in the back of the head with an antique pistol, and fired again when he fell to the ground, said Queens DA Richard Brown.

Bonich confessed

to the killing when confronted by police, said NYPD Chief of Detectives Robert Boyce.

A person close to Klinger said he had just accepted a teaching position at Hudson College and was attending a conference about the former Yugoslavia.

WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE

Cuomo demands ethics reforms

Budget. As federal investigators descend on Albany, state pols scramble.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo said he'll only approve a new state budget if it includes a five-point ethics reform.

"The past has shown that this problem will recur unless we have total disclosure that leaves no question unanswered and brings sunlight to the ethical shadows," Cuomo said Monday in Manhattan.

Also on Monday, one of the most powerful state lawmakers, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, was due to resign his leadership post amid a widening corruption probe.

Silver, 70, was handcuffed and taken to a lower Manhattan federal court last month on charges he



Gov. Cuomo / GETTY IMAGES

used his office to pocket almost \$4 million in kickbacks.

Cuomo said any budget lawmakers hope to pass must be accompanied by new rules requiring total disclosure of outside income for legislators, and the forfeiture of taxpayer-funded pensions for lawmakers convicted of corruption.

NBC New York reported Thursday that federal authorities are investigating Senate Majority Leader

Dean Skelos, who, along with Cuomo and Silver, runs the state's lawmaking process. Skelos' office said it knew of no investigation.

Bronx Assemblyman and Democratic Party boss Carl Heastie appears set to become the first black speaker.

Several media outlets said Monday that Heastie used his campaign coffers to cover his own expenses, prompting the now-defunct anti-corruption Moreland Commission to subpoena his records.

Heastie has denied any wrongdoing.

"One question is if he's clean enough," said Gerald Benjamin, a political science professor at SUNY New Paltz. "It appears his colleagues seem to think he is."



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Balancing act. Giving birth to her business on maternity leave

SECOND SHIFT

Creative ways city dwellers make ends meet

EMILY LAURENCE

Contact us if you have a story to tell: emily.laurence@metro.us



Bio

Lia Littlewood

Age: 31
Residency: New Jersey
Lives: With her husband and baby
Number of jobs: 2

In a nutshell, what are your two jobs?

From 9 to 5, I'm a client manager at American Express. And on the side, my best friend Liz and I run a website called Little List, which has deals on high quality items for moms.

How did the idea for Little List come about?

Liz and I were both working full-time jobs when we became pregnant at the same time; our daughters were born only two days apart. While we were on maternity leave, we got to talking about how there really isn't a site that delivers high-quality deals for moms. We have been bragging about scoring deals since our college days.

How do you balance everything now that you're back working full-time?

It really comes down to



Lia Littlewood / PROVIDED

time-management. We both work full-time, so from 9 to 5, work is our focus. Then we come home and designate an hour and a half to our babies. We focus on Little List after they go to bed, until about midnight.

Have you been able to generate any money from the site?

Yes. We've been generating revenue by forming partnerships with popular baby brands.

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FORECAST: 20 BELOW 100.

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Outage. RadioShack in talks to sell half its stores, close the rest

RadioShack Corp., is preparing to shut down the almost-century-old retail chain in a bankruptcy deal that would sell about half its store leases to Sprint Corp., and close the rest, according to people with knowledge of the discussions.

The locations sold to Sprint would operate under the wireless carrier's name, meaning RadioShack would cease to exist as a stand-alone retailer, said the people, who declined to be identified because the talks aren't public.

The negotiations could still break down without a deal being reached, or the terms could change. Sprint and RadioShack also have discussed co-branding the stores, two of the people said. It's also possible that another bidder could emerge that would buy RadioShack and keep it operating, the people said.

The discussions represent the endgame for a chain that traces its roots to 1921, when it began as a mail-order retailer for amateur ham-radio operators and maritime communications officers. It expanded into a wider range of electronics over the decades, and by the 1980s was seen as a destination for personal computers, gadgets and components that were hard to find elsewhere. In more recent years, though, competition from Walmart and an army of e-commerce sellers hurt customer traffic. **BLOOMBERG**



RadioShack / GETTY IMAGES

Obama seeks \$14B for cybersecurity

GOP. It is unclear how much funding the Republican-controlled Congress will allow.

President Barack Obama's budget proposal for the 2016 fiscal year seeks \$14 billion for cybersecurity efforts across the U.S. government to better protect federal and private networks from hacking threats.

Federal cybersecurity funding has steadily increased in recent years, reflecting the intensity of threats U.S. companies and government agencies are facing from cyber-intruders, both domestic and foreign.

The budget, released on Monday, calls for de-

Quoted

"Cyberthreats targeting the private sector, critical infrastructure and the federal government demonstrate that no sector, network or system is immune to infiltration by those seeking to steal commercial or government secrets and property or perpetrate malicious and disruptive activity." White House summary



The National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center in Arlington, Virginia. / GETTY IMAGES

ployment of more intrusion detection and prevention capabilities, greater sharing of data with the private sector and other countries and more funding to beef up the government's ability to respond to attacks.

The funding would support several specific programs, such as monitoring and diagnostics of federal computer networks, the EINSTEIN intrusion detection and prevention system and government-wide testing and incident-response training. **REUTERS**

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1. AMS 700® Patient Manual, Information and Instructions for Patients Considering an Inflatable Penile Prosthesis. American Medical Systems, 2012.

2. Viagra® Prescribing Information, Pfizer Inc. Revised January 2010.

3. Cialis® Prescribing Information, Lilly USA, LLC. Revised October 2011.

4. Levitra® Prescribing Information, Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals. Revised November 2011.

5. Penile prosthesis. <http://www.ams.com/health/links/infused/erectileprosthesis/penileprosthesis.html>. European Society for Sexual Medicine (ESSM) Web site. Downloaded May 2013.

American Medical Systems, Inc. has sponsored funding for this patient seminar and accompanying educational material. As with any medical procedure, there are benefits and risks. Visit TDCare.org or consult your physician for more information.

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Strauss-Kahn's trial opens in France over prostitution scandal

Rejected. Defense lawyers had argued against the trial being held behind closed doors.

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the former International Monetary Fund chief tipped to become French president before a New York hotel maid accused him of sexual assault in 2011, went on trial in France on Monday in a separate case of alleged procuring of prostitutes.

The court rejected a prosecutor's request for the trial to be held behind closed doors to protect the identity of prostitutes who are due to testify about their encounters with him and other defendants.



Strauss-Kahn / GETTY IMAGES

Fines

\$1.7M

Strauss-Kahn, 65, who settled a U.S. civil case with chambermaid Nafissatou Diallo after criminal charges were dropped, risks as much as 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1.7 million if convicted in the French trial taking place in the northern city of Lille.

"The court considers that plaintiffs always have the choice" whether or not to speak, the court's president said.

Investigating magistrates who sent Strauss-Kahn to trial with 13 others argue he knew he was dealing with prostitutes when taking part in sex parties in Paris, Lille and Washington from 2008 to 2011, a judicial source said. He is charged with "procuring with aggravating circumstances." Prosecutors say the charge of procuring, or pimping, is applicable because, under the French legal definition, it extends to any activity seen as facilitating prostitution. Investigators allege he allowed his apartment to be used for sex parties involving prostitutes and that he was involved in organizing them.

REUTERS

Rail town

Rebels pound Ukrainian troops after peace talks fail

Separatist rockets streaked across hills in eastern Ukraine on Monday as rebels pounded the positions of Ukrainian government troops holding a strategic rail town, while both sides prepared

to mobilise more forces for combat.

U.S. officials said Washington was taking a "fresh look" at providing Ukraine with lethal aid after a surge of violence following the collapse of a new peace effort on Saturday, although they emphasized that no decision had yet been made.

Kiev's military said five more Ukrainian soldiers

had been killed in clashes, while municipal authorities in the rebel-controlled city of Donetsk said 15 civilians had been killed by shelling at the weekend.

Talks between Ukraine, Russia and rebel officials in Minsk, Belarus, had raised hopes of a new cease-fire to stem the violence in a conflict that has claimed more than 5,000 lives. **REUTERS**

Diabetes

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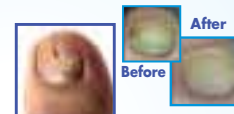
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**The Most Advanced
Techniques Used For Bunions
& Hammertoe Correction**

Source reports. AT&T to sell data centers worth up to \$2 billion



AT&T hired a financial adviser to assist in the sale. / GETTY IMAGES

AT&T is selling some data centers worth about \$2 billion as it continues its streak of asset sales, people familiar with the matter said on Monday.

AT&T, the No. 2 U.S. wireless provider, has been exploring options to pay down its debt and raise funds for investments in recent months. The company declined to comment.

The three sources requested anonymity because the matter is not public.

AT&T and its rival Verizon have been selling non-core assets in recent months. Verizon is close to announcing divestitures of wireless towers and wireline markets worth \$10 billion. The Wall Street Journal reported on Monday.

Following spectrum investments and pending acquisitions, AT&T's debt ratio may rise in the near term, the company said last week after spending close to half of the total bids in the record-setting \$44.9 billion spectrum sale that concluded last week.

Sold
\$2B

AT&T also sold its wireline operations in Connecticut to regional telephone operator Frontier Communications for \$2 billion in late 2013 to raise cash for network upgrades.

AT&T emerged the top bidder in the AWS-3 spectrum auction by bagging 251 licenses worth \$18.2 billion.

The company has also been investing to expand its footprint in Mexico to grow its business, as the U.S. wireless market reaches saturation. It said last month it would buy bankrupt NII Holdings Inc.'s wireless business in Mexico for \$1.875 billion.

In 2013, AT&T completed a \$4.85 billion sale of some of its towers to tower operator Crown Castle and preserved its right to lease and operate them for about 28 years.

The Wall Street Journal first reported AT&T's plans to sell its data centers on Monday. **REUTERS**

California

Day care center shuts down after baby contracts measles

A day care center at a Southern California high school has been closed after a baby enrolled in the program was diagnosed with measles amid an outbreak that has already infected more than 100 people nationwide, the Los Angeles Times reported on Monday.

The infant was enrolled at the child-care center at Santa Monica High School, where a freshman baseball coach contracted measles last month, the Times reported. It was not immediately clear if the two cases were related.

A spokeswoman for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District could not immediately be reached for comment by Reuters.

The spokeswoman told the Times that the baby was under the age of 12 months and therefore could not be immunized for measles. **REUTERS**

Cases

92

The California Department of Public Health said on Monday that 92 cases of measles had been confirmed in the state, up from 91 on Friday.

Nice to meet you, Mr. President

Satirical project

Avoid politics, just like meat

For Instagrammer and artist Saint Hoax, politicians are processed, and packaged as an enticing yet sinful product to consume — just like a massive slab of meat. And that's not agreeable, says Hoax, for the so-called "politarian," a "person who doesn't consume politics or politicians, especially for moral, religious or health reasons" — to whom this satirical series is dedicated. **MWN**



The series includes photographs of David Cameron, Kim Jong Un, Benjamin Netanyahu and Recep Tayyip Erdogan / @SAINTHOAX



U.S. President Barack Obama



Russian President Vladimir Putin



Supreme Leader of North Korea Kim Jong Un



Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto

Ripening in the sun

Apple to sink \$2 billion to create data center from failed sapphire plant

Apple said it plans to invest \$2 billion to convert a failed sapphire glass plant in Arizona into a data command center.

Apple partnered with GT Advanced Technologies Inc. to set up the plant in Mesa in 2013 to manufacture scratch-resistant sapphire screens.

But GT Advanced filed for bankruptcy last October and closed the plant, after the company's sapphire glass was left out of



Apple / GETTY IMAGES

Apple's new iPhones.

"This multibillion-dollar project is one of the largest investments we've ever made," Apple spokeswoman Rachel Wolf said in a statement on Monday.

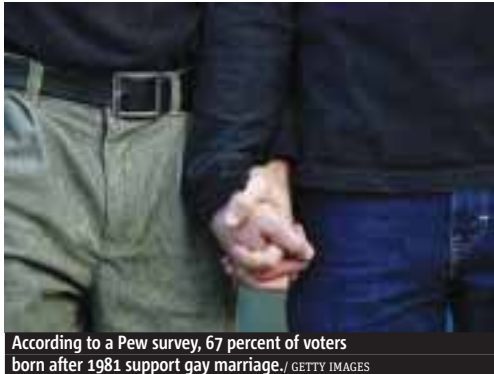
The investment is expected to create 600 engineering and construction jobs at the data center, Apple said, adding that the plant would be powered mostly by solar energy. **REUTERS**

Obama supports spousal benefits for gay couples

Social Security. If approved, same-sex couples would receive the same spousal benefits as heterosexual married couples.

President Barack Obama's \$4 trillion budget proposal includes a major change to the Social Security Act that would allow same-sex couples to receive spousal benefits even if they live in states that don't recognize such unions.

Under current law, gay couples who move from one of the 36 states that permit same-sex marriage to one that does not lose the Social Security benefits heterosexual couples enjoy. "Under this proposal, such married couples would have access to these benefits," according to the budget.



It's the first time Obama has suggested such a change, though he stated his personal support for gay marriage in 2012. Last year, the president went further, telling the New Yorker's Jeffery Toobin that he believes the Equal Protection Clause in the U.S. Constitution "does guarantee" same-sex marriage in all 50 states.

The proposal in his budget would have to be passed by a Republican-led

Congress that is deeply divided on gay marriage, stirring debate that would put the issue in the forefront as the party is trying to select a 2016 presidential candidate. Social conservatives oppose such unions, while the libertarian wing prefers the issue be left up to states. Many of the party's big donors, including energy executive David Koch and hedge fund founder Paul Singer, support gay marriage. **BLOOMBERG**

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Advertising. The most expensive Super Bowl ads of all time

This year, costs fell from their peak levels and the commercials didn't generate as much buzz, but in past years, brands peacocked big time:

Microsoft

\$8 million, 60 seconds. The 2014 spot showed tech at its best: A deployed soldier virtually watched the birth of his newborn, a deaf teen received the gift of hearing...We say, money well spent.

Jaguar

\$8 million, 60 seconds. Not to be outdone, Jaguar shot a mini-movie starring Sir Ben Kingsley, "Thor" star Tom Hiddleston and Mark Strong to tout its 5F Coupe. Tom Hooper ("The King's Speech") directed the short, which explains to American viewers why British villains are the best.



Visit Metro.us to watch all the commercials mentioned here. / YOUTUBE/CHRYSLER

Kia

\$8 million, 60 seconds. Kia brought viewers back last year with its "Matrix"-inspired commercial. What better way to advertise its new luxury car than by spending \$133,333 a second?

Bud Light

\$12 million, 90 seconds. For last year's big budget promo, Bud Light turned an unsuspecting average guy into a star, with the help of Arnold Schwarzenegger, Minka Kelly, Reggie Watts,

Don Cheadle and One Republic.

Chrysler

\$12.4 million, 2 minutes. 2014 might have scored the fifth through second most expensive ads, but the priciest is Chrysler's 2011 spot. In an effort to counteract the negative press Detroit was getting, it showed the city's strength, as seen by Eminem as he drives through the city. The commercial paid off: Chrysler's business has improved by more than 50 percent.

EMILY LAURENCE

Why Aren't Doctors Telling About These Two Often

Two Advanced Medical Treatments Every Knee Arthritis Sufferer

by OsteoRelief Center

OsteoRelief Center is a medical clinic with locations in Mid-town NYC, Financial District NYC And north Jersey that has treated thousands of knee arthritis patients since 2009.

Here is what every knee arthritis sufferer should know about the best treatments and options available today. Including when and why you should consider each of these 2 treatment approaches to get maximum results.

If you suffer with knee arthritis pain, you have probably already tried many treatments ... especially countless pain medications.

Experienced doctors understand that, even though pain medications such as anti-inflammatory pain pills are part of the recommended early treatment plan for knee arthritis pain... they are rarely the answer.

In most cases they have minimal results (if any) and have a laundry list of potential side effects. Some being serious and even life threatening.

Are There Any Better Options?

Thankfully, advancements in science and technology come extremely fast. And now there are two very good options for knee arthritis to help relieve the pain.

Two options that a lot of knee arthritis sufferers have never heard of.

Before we get into the two treatments, please understand this...

OsteoRelief Center is a REAL medical clinic that has treated thousands of knee arthritis sufferers. Patients travel from all over the country to be treated at one of their clinics because they want the best medical treatments available.

What you are about to discover are two REAL medical treatments. Not miracle cures you see on infomercials or on the internet.

Know this fact: There is no cure for arthritis. But there are these two treatments that have already helped thousands of knee arthritis sufferers - possibly just like you.

The first treatment is more common than the second. Even if you have heard of this treatment - or even tried it without good results - please read this. You will find out why it may not have worked for you and how you may be able to get much better results.

#1

Viscosupplementation

Viscosupplementation has gained quite a bit of popularity in recent years and it has gotten mixed results for a couple of reasons.

But before we get into that, here's what you need to know about viscosupplementation.

When you have arthritis, you suffer a decrease in the lubrication fluids in your knee.

In other words, your knee joints basically "dries up."

The lubricating fluid that decreases is called "synovial fluid."

Pharmaceutical companies (with the help of scientists) can now make natural synovial fluid gel-like compounds that, during viscosupplementation, treatments... doctors can precisely introduce directly into the knee and other joints.

This helps replace the lubricating fluid to the knee joint - allowing it to move more freely and smoothly and often decreasing or even eliminating the pain.

What Results Can Be Expected?

Like all medical treatments, the results vary and can not be predicted. But many knee arthritis sufferers get dramatic results. It is not uncommon for patients to either postpone knee replacement surgery for years... or even permanently cancel it.

But There Is A BIG Problem

The key is the treatment must be EXTREMELY PRECISE. If the injection is slightly off, the medication will not get into the knee joint and the treatment will not work.

That's why the experts at OsteoRelief Center use advanced digital imaging so they can see the medicine going directly into the knee joint during the treatment.

Research shows that doctors performing joint injections without imaging miss the joint as much as 30% of the time.

If you have tried viscosupplementation without this special digital imaging without good results - this may be why.

That's why OsteoRelief Center takes it even one step further. They do not just use one step process of advanced imaging during treatment - they use two in their "double confirmation" process. This is to ensure patients get the best possible results.

Another Important Factor

Viscosupplementation medications also come in several different brands and chemical make-ups. Just like all medications, some people respond better to some than others. While many doctors only use one brand, the experts at Osteorelief Center use several and great effort is taken to figure out what the best one for YOU is.

One last thing: The experts at OsteoRelief Center have found that the earlier you start Viscosupplementation the better.

This is most likely because the longer you wait - the more joint destruction takes place.

That's why OsteoRelief is now seeing so many patients as young as 45.

Summary: If you have knee arthritis pain and have not tried Viscosupplementation, you should look into it as soon as possible.

If you have tried it without good results, you may still be able to get great results with the proper imaging and specific medication.

What Should You Do If Viscosupplementation Fails?

When conservative treatment, including visco supplementation fail... most knee arthritis sufferers believe their only option is total knee replacement surgery.

This is not true... and here is why

There is another treatment for serious knee arthritis pain most people (and even doctors) do not know about.

#2 Radiofrequency Neurotomy

This treatment is called, "Radiofrequency Neurotomy." RF for short

RF is a procedure that is based on the theory that blocking the nerve supply to the painful area may alleviate pain and restore function.

Several branches of nerves that surround the knee are known as "genicular nerves."

Radiofrequency waves are delivered to the genicular nerves under advanced imaging to "block" the nerves

Knee Arthritis Sufferers Successful Treatments?

Needs To Know - Before Or After Knee Replacement Surgery

Two procedures are performed. First, a test, diagnostic "G Block" procedure is done to determine if the procedure is going to decrease pain and improve function.

If this first "test" procedure is successful, Genicular Neurotomy (G - RF) is performed for long term relief.

Is It Safe?

Research has shown this procedure to be safe and effective.

One study published November 4, 2010 in the journal Pain found that RF treated subjects on average "achieved at least 50% knee pain relief at 1, 4 and 12 weeks, respectively. No patient reported a postprocedure adverse event during the follow-up period. RF neurotomy of genicular nerves leads to significant pain reduction and functional improvement in a subset of elderly chronic knee OA pain, and thus may be an effective treatment in such cases."

It should also be mentioned that, like all research, more studies should be done to get even more answers.

Who Should Try This Treatment?

RF should be considered after other treatments, such as anti-inflammatory pain medication and viscosupplementation do not offer good enough results.

RF can be utilized before resorting to total knee replacement. RF allows many patients to avoid knee replacement surgery.

RF has also been found effective AFTER knee replacement surgery when the patient still feels pain.

The pain after a failed knee replacement surgery can be debilitating and this procedure can be the only thing that helps and give you relief.

What To Do Next If You Are In Pain

Here is the "X" factor many do not consider that might be the difference between you getting the best possible treatment or not.

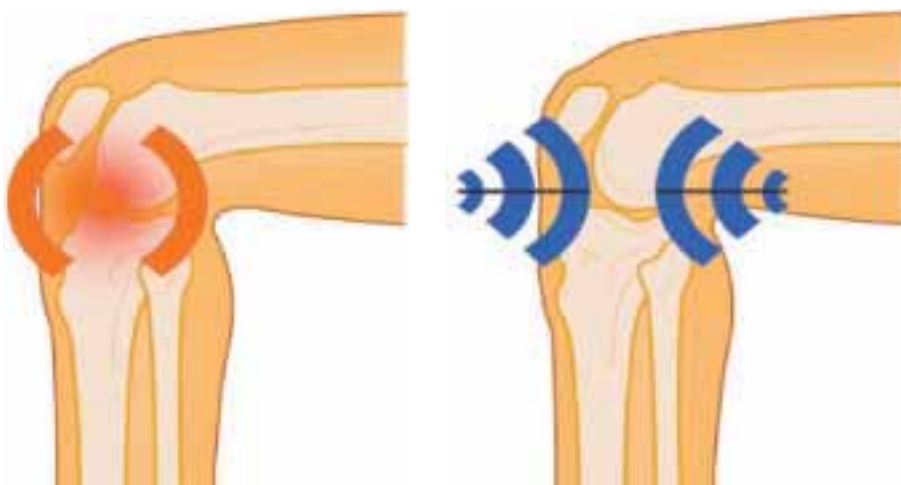
Many experts suggest choosing a medical clinic that offers all these treatments and has the proper, most advanced technology all under one roof.

This way, the doctors working on your case can give you a proper examination and advise the best possible treatment plan for your individual case.

Several experts work as a team to offer you the best treatment options at the appropriate time to maximize results. It is also very convenient to have all your doctors and treatments in one place. Traveling to different offices can be time consuming and even more expensive.

OsteoRelief Center believes this "X" factor is one of the

Advanced Treatment Uses Radio Frequencies To Relieve Knee Arthritis Pain



Science rescues knee arthritis sufferers?: Radio Frequency Waves are used to block the nerve supply to the painful area and may alleviate pain and restore function to many.

reasons so many knee arthritis sufferers travel from all over the country to be treated at one of their advanced medical clinics.

Your Invitation

OsteoRelief Center offers a limited number of complimentary knee arthritis treatment screenings every month. These screenings are a way for knee arthritis sufferers to get some of their questions answered and see if they are a candidate for one of the cutting-edge treatments

offered at OsteoRelief Center.

If you would like a complimentary screening, just call 800-227-KNEE(5633) and tell the scheduling expert who answers the phone, "I would like a complimentary knee arthritis screening."

The screenings fill up

fast every month. If you do not call in time to get one this month, the expert will schedule you for next month.

This screening is no cost and no obligation.

Many of the treatments offered are covered by many insurance plans and Medicare.



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15 Park Avenue, New York, NY
Exec Director: Alex Garger MD

Downtown NYC Medical
130 William Street, New York, NY
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2

CULTURE



Twitter feed

Today, Mindy Kaling is there for you, Tom Daley's taste buds are maturing, Tom Arnold is having a rough time at home, Ricky Martin has a new mantra and Kevin Nealon is feeling left out.

@mindykaling: I'm live-tweeting tonight's brand new #theMindyProject bc after the last 30 seconds you're gonna want someone to talk to.

@TomDaley1994: Anyone else out there gone from hating coffee...to caramel single shot latte...to latte...to just black coffee? It all happened so quickly!

@TomArnold: I fear the music teacher from Whip-lash has become my wife's spirit animal.

@ricky_martin: "Escape the ordinary"

@kevin_nealon: I wasn't told about the SNL 40th Anniversary. When is it?

1

Kim Kardashian is not sorry



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

There's trouble in the Jenner-Kardashian compound, and it apparently stems from comments that the most famous of the brood, Kim Kardashian, made in an interview with "Entertainment Tonight" last month expressing support for "what Bruce [Jenner] is going through." What he's reportedly going through is transitioning from male to female, though no official announcement has been made yet — hence the family strife. "Kim has not even tried

to apologize because she says she was helping him and the ratings of the TV show," a source tells Radar Online. "Unfortunately, the more Kim talks the more famous she gets. She has pulled this kind of stunt before and has lost friends and lovers. But she honestly does not care. She just moves on." And honestly, I'm surprised by the family outrage. If anyone understands the "I was trying to boost our ratings" argument, it's those people.

4

Kate Winslet has a bold parenting style

Kate Winslet takes a positive attitude when it comes to helping her children cope with divorce. "I think it's very important to teach your children to struggle on some level," she tells Harper's Bazaar. "I would honestly say that I wouldn't



change a thing. Even all the bad bits. It doesn't matter how s---ty times have been, they all matter, because those things shape who you are. And if you don't like who you are, well, then you're f---ed, really, aren't you?" Way to bring everybody down, Kate.

Katy Perry half-time show decoded by Illuminati conspiracy nuts



You can't perform at the Super Bowl without a certain, always entertaining corner of the Internet picking apart the annual halftime extravaganza in search of Illuminati clues and symbolism. Among

those symbols on display this year, apparently, were the very important Masonic checker board — though her dancers were playing chess, not checkers, but whatever — and the Masonic Lion

that Perry rode into battle. Except it was a tiger. But again, whatever. There's just so much going on here, it clearly has to be the work of a secret organization that controls the world, right?

THE WORD

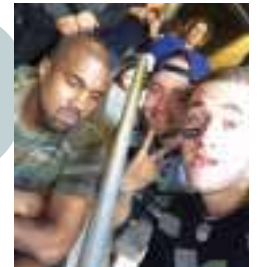
Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

NED EHRLBAR

@Nedrick
ned.ehrbar@metro.us

Kanye West doesn't want to be in your selfie

Kanye West went to the Super Bowl, but he didn't look too happy about it. Or maybe he just wasn't too happy about being roped into a couple of fans' attempts at a selfie with the star. He just looks so miserable, right? Seriously, did he just send his Madame Tussauds' wax figure to the big game in his stead?



BOOMPOW / INSTAGRAM

Daily video

Oh, Mariah. Oh no.

Hey, remember back in December when Mariah Carey sang live at the Rockefeller Center tree-lighting and everybody cringed? Well, her solution to that sort of problem isn't quite working out for her. Carey



There was a lot of this.

HEALTHY LIFE WORLD / YOUTUBE

appeared at the recent Jamaica Jazz and Blues Festival, but attendees were

more than a little miffed at what they claim was obvious lip-syncing. "She didn't do one live song," one commenter on the Jamaica Observer's site complained, while another added, "I guess the crowd was more excited to see Mariah perform than to listen [to] a genuine performance."

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'Mindy' goes the distance

Interview. Mindy Kaling says her character is learning to live with a long-distance relationship.

"The Mindy Project" is attempting something pretty bold for a sitcom: The main couple got together, and stayed together. Many shows take the Ross and Rachel route, and try "will they/won't they" couples before breaking them up, but so far, Mindy and beau Danny (Chris Messina) have been working out their differences.

"Mindy's a very wild character and she has very strong opinions, but they both just kind of want to

make it work," says creator and star Mindy Kaling.

The duo has faced challenges before, but they're now up against their biggest issue yet: Mindy is doing a fellowship at Stanford, and they're dating long distance.

Asked if the show's writers focused on Mindy's career now that her love life is stable, Kaling jokes, "Thank you for giving us the credit to know that we're that planned out," before saying, "We just think, 'What's exciting to us?' Mindy had started taking interns under her wing, and I really liked that dynamic."

Kaling took some inspiration from her last job when planning out the Stanford arc. "We had an arc in 'The Office' called the Michael Scott

Paper Company that was one of my favorite arcs. You don't always see professional ambition in TV characters, so that was really fun to do."

Part of the fun of writing the relationship has been letting Messina shine. "I feel like Chris used to be a straight man for my character in like the first four episodes. More and more, my favorite scenes are the ones where



Contrary to what that "invisible Mindy" Nationwide Super Bowl ad suggested, she is quite visible on "The Mindy Project" Tuesdays at 9:30 p.m. on Fox. / BETH DUBBER, FOX



Mindy is like, 'Hey man, are you OK?' Where Mindy's the straight man," says Kaling. "Chris is so talented. I love that in one episode he can be a complete heart-throb, but then also a walking physical comedy setpiece. It's awesome."

New cast

Co-star turnover

The show has had some changes in its cast, but a recent one has Kaling extra sad: the impending departure of Adam Pally. Says Kaling: "We can't really replace Pally. He's so funny and he's so woven into the fabric of the show. Mindy and him are such close friends that we definitely wouldn't want to replace anyone with his energy, which

is so rare. It's kind of like incredibly sweet frat boy a—hole."

Kaling does promise they'll address the character leaving: "We have a whole thing about replacing the doctor — the hole that he left — so that's going to be a nice arc."



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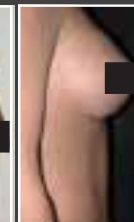
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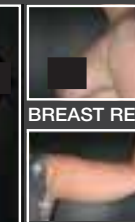
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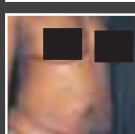
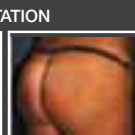
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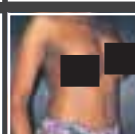
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Nick Hornby takes on Hollywood's double-standards in new novel

Out today. "Funny Girl" asks big questions about fame, success and what it all means.

book. How do you cope with that afterwards?"

The funny thing about being funny

"Funny Girl" follows a small town girl named Barbara who moves to London with big dreams of becoming the next Lucille Ball. The blessing and the curse is that Barbara is beautiful, which doesn't lend itself to being cast in comic roles.


"When I was working on 'An Education' [Hornby wrote the screenplay], Rosamund Pike said to me that she wanted to

do the comic role in the movie because she wasn't allowed to be funny very often. And that was all she said, but I was thinking about that and how maybe the way she looks means she only gets a certain type of part," Hornby says.

Highbrow, lowbrow and Nick Hornby

In the book, Barbara does land a leading comic sitcom role and she becomes one of the most famous actresses in Britain. She's

While Nick Hornby's seventh novel, "Funny Girl" is set in the '60s, the premise couldn't be more relevant: How do you live after an enormous amount of success comes to define your life? "We see it all the time," Hornby tells us. "People make one show, one album, one movie or one



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an enjoyable character to follow in the book, but the supportive characters are just as colorful. There's Clive, her skirt-chasing TV husband, the director Dennis, who pines after Barbara though she's on and off dating Clive, and the writers Bill and Tony, who met in prison after they were both arrested for trying to pick up men in the rest room (This being the '60s, homosexual-ity was illegal).

In one scene, Dennis is caught in a highbrow versus lowbrow debate on a BBC news show defending the wildly popular sitcom he directs. Hornby says this is something he's experienced his entire career. "It's never very far

If you go

Nick Hornby in conversation with Bill Tipper

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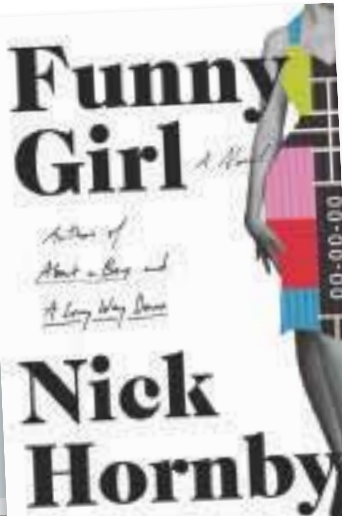


HORNBY ALSO RECENTLY
WROTE THE SCREENPLAY
FOR "WILD."
MIRIAM DOUGLAS

from any of us it is? It's with literary fiction versus non-literary fiction, indie rock versus American 'Pop Idol' music. It's a debate that never seems to go away or get old," he says.



EMILY LAURENCE
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emily.laurence@metro.us



Present tense

No spoilers, just a tease

The book doesn't stay in the '60s. It brings readers right up to 2015 with the characters in their 70s, long after the success of the sitcom. So how does each character deal with getting older and the

dim of bright success? There will be no spoilers here, only a tease: it's vastly different for everyone, and as with any Hornby book, you'll close the book thinking it's his best.

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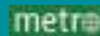


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TELEVISION 20

J.B. Smoove digs in

Interview. The comic's restaurant-set chat show returns for a new season.

Comedian and actor J.B. Smoove may have pulled off the best fine-dining con: setting a TV series at a fancy restaurant. He returns with a third season of "Four Courses with J.B. Smoove," this time featuring hilarious and probing conversations with comics and guests over dinner at Hudson Malone. Nice work if you can get it.

Setting a show at a restaurant seems like a genius idea.

And we hand-pick these restaurants. We have to do research, have to go there and sit at a table. I need to know what's going on. I sit down, they bring me a table setting, and the waitress is always beautiful and nice, the chef comes out and shakes my hand, the owner of the restaurant greets me, you know? I'm going to go through the menu with a fine-tooth comb to see what's going to activate my taste buds.

All right, let's talk desserts.

I'm from North Carolina originally, so my sweet tooth is a little different than the average sweet tooth. The desserts at our restaurants are normally gourmet desserts, not necessarily the banana pudding or the peach cobbler

Bonus question

How to get more 'Curb Your Enthusiasm'

J.B. Smoove understands how curious fans of "Curb

Your Enthusiasm" are about whether the HBO series is ever coming back — and he's right there with you. The best way to make that happen? Send creator and star Larry David on a guilt trip. "You kind of almost have to trick Larry into coming back," Smoove explains.

"He doesn't want to let anybody down, so I want him to think that without that 'Curb' check, I'm doomed. That's not true, but I want him to feel like everybody needs the show to come back. I'll make up stories like, 'I ran into Jeff [Garlin], he's not doing so well, man.'"



range. A dessert should be presented in the right way because it is the final piece of the puzzle — like a lava cake, which is amazing. I still don't understand how they get the damn hot lava inside the cake. Have you ever thought about that? How do they get that hot-ass lava in there?

I have no idea.

These are just the kinds of things that occur to me.

Do you have any rituals related to the show?

I'll come home after a gourmet meal, after a fine meal of elegance, and sit on my couch and eat a peanut butter and jelly sandwich before I go to bed. Isn't that really weird? It's like I'm re-gifting my mouth. I had a gift — an amazing meal — and then I'm re-gifting my mouth again by having a peanut butter and jelly sandwich before I turn it in for bed. That's just my process. I'm not telling everybody else to do that.

OK, but creamy or crunchy?

Oh, always creamy. The crunchy interferes, and then I have to chew twice. First I have to chew the bread, then I absorb the peanut butter and jelly — they kind of dissolve in your mouth, nobody really chews them — but the crunchies, that's a whole other process. Now I've got to chew the damn crunchies? My mouth is working overtime now. It's too much work to get the damn thing down my throat.

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Genevieve Gorder on designing a kid's room



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Tips. See how the designer set up her daughter's room.

Designer and HGTV star Genevieve Gorder's New York City home recently underwent a complete redesign. And one of the most awe-inspiring spaces was her daughter Bebel's room.

We talked to the designer on why she chose the elements she did.

Incorporate family heirlooms

"Bebelle has a beautiful bedroom. I put in a bunch of furniture from

my grandmother," says Gorder. "My grandmother's bed that I slept in as a kid is now my daughter's bed." The designer wasn't reusing the furniture to cut down on costs, though that's always a plus. "[It's important] to have things from family so she knows she's part of something bigger, and she respects older furniture and techniques that just get ingrained into their visual memory," explains Gorder. To avoid looking outdated, Gorder spruced up the piece. "I painted the bed with a gorgeous black oil paint so it makes it look more contemporary and gives it a new life," she says.

Don't forget the fun

The pièce de résistance is a wooden swing in the middle of Bebel's room. "Her room is how you dream about as a 6-year-old in a non-commercial way," says the designer. "It's about incorporating really simple things that give you pleasure when you're a kid that you don't get to have when you're older." And Bebel's friends all love coming over to play in her room. Gorder says they come over after school and line up for their turn on the swing.



TINA CHADHA
@TinaatMetro
tina.chadha@metro.us



Don't you wish you had a swing in your room growing up? Here's a look at Bebel's room photographed for HGTV magazine's October 2014 issue. / DAVID A. LAND, HGTV MAGAZINE



PLUS

Decor tip

Not just for kids

Gorder loves mixing items like a metallic side table and lush pillows from regular stores with the toys and kid-friendly pieces. "If you just give them kid furniture and kid clothes and kid room stuff, it becomes like a toy store and kinda junky," she says.



ART: TOM SLAGTER. PHOTOS: RICH DRYSON, EVGENIA ELISEEVA

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PARENTING 22

Kickstarter projects that could transform parenting

Parents constantly have to problem-solve — it can seem like there's a potential crisis every hour. Most parents want to just quiet their kid and move on, but the creative minds behind these three projects are using the problems they've faced to help other parents. Check out their amazing ideas.

EMILY LAURENCE



ISTOCK

A genius way to get picky eaters to dig in

Having a child who's a picky eater makes every meal stressful. First, you spend time trying to think of a creative way to sneak some nutrients into something your kid will eat. Then, you spend the meal pleading and bribing to get your kid to actually eat it. And finally, you just give up. The inventor of Jungle Bowl is a mom who has been there, done that, which is why she came up with a clever way to get kids to eat everything in front of them. You can hide a little toy surprise at the bottom of this bowl that the child can get to only after eating his or her way through. Ah, the element of surprise. Works every time.



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A toy that creates more toys

This toy sharpens kids' creativity and coding skills, just by using drinking straws. The Quirkbot is a microcontroller that kids can program on the computer to do anything. The inventors behind this project worked with groups of elementary schoolers to make sure it's easy to use. Once programmed, kids can slide straws over the microcontroller's little extensions and start building their

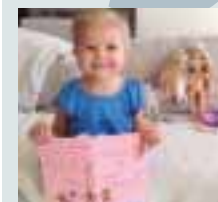


KICKSTARTER

own robots that can hula, crawl like a spider, run like a dog or something else entirely. The possibilities really are endless, and it's all done with straws!

A book empowering kids with cancer

Every year, more than 15,000 kids under the age of 19 are diagnosed with cancer. Going through treatment is exhausting and confusing in many ways. The woman behind this project, Carole Folkert, wants to make just one aspect of cancer not as traumatic: hair loss. She wrote "The Legend of the Hair Fairies" about fairies who replace hair with hope. It turns losing hair into something positive, not sad. She saw firsthand how her story helped Eva, a little girl close to her heart who was going through chemo when Folkert read her the book. If Folkert reaches her funding goal, she'll be able to give 1,000 books to kids for free.



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Horoscope

Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Streamline your efforts and concentrate on one project at a time. The more you take on, the harder it will be to remain in control.

Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20 Success is in the cards. Be secretive about your ideas to avoid someone intervening. Follow your intuition and come out ahead.

Aries | March 21-April 20 Slow and steady will win the race. Mistakes are likely if you have too many irons in the fire. There is someone who wants to collaborate with you.

Taurus | April 21-May 21 Spend time on your own. Research something you find intriguing. Studying will keep you from getting into a damaging debate.

Gemini | May 22-June 20 You will have a chance to try something out of the ordinary. If you participate in everything, you will have an eye-opening experience.

Cancer | June 21-July 22 You can get what you want if you are patient. Let things unfold naturally. Don't rush into new ventures. If you want new possibilities, pay close attention.

Leo | July 23-Aug. 22 Compromise will be a necessity. Don't fall for an offer that sounds too good to be true. Keep your valuables under surveillance.

Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Keep an eye out for a job opportunity. A chance to pick up additional skills should not be missed. Give whatever you do your best shot in order to succeed.

Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22 You will end up paying the price if you have been overspending or overindulging. Get back on track and stick to your budget.

Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Career advancement should be your first concern. You can increase your cash flow by marketing an idea to the right people.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21 If you are feeling down and out, take time to rejuvenate. Find a relaxing way to soothe your nerves. Get plenty of rest.

Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Love and romance are highlighted. If you plan a fun activity with someone special, you will discover how much you have in common. **EUGENIA LAST**

Letters to the editor

Congrats, Pats!

Super Bowl XLIX was truly a clash of the Titans. New England Patriots under coach Bill Belichick vs. the Seattle Seahawks under coach Pete Carroll fought many hard games to get their teams to this most important day — a day where both teams engaged in a battle of epic proportions. Both teams struggled to win the prize. But as in any battle or game there can only be one winner. As once was written by Stanley Ralph Ross, "The thrill of victory ... the agony of defeat." That is so very true. I congratulate the New England Patriots for a hard-fought game. Kudos, Patriots, you've done good!

FREDERICK R. BEDELL JR.,
VIA EMAIL

Seahawks coach unwitting MVP

I believe rather than Tom Brady being named the Super Bowl MVP, this honor should have gone to Seahawks coach Pete Carroll because we couldn't have won the game without his invaluable coaching skills. They had the game in the bag and then Carroll comes along and saves the day for New England Patriots fans. As I stated, we couldn't have done it without him. He's my MVP.

SAL GIARRATANI, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Sudoku: Easy and hard

			3	5		4
8		4		1		7
	2	7	6			1
	9		3			
	8		5	2	7	
				8	9	
	7			9	4	3
6			8		9	1
5			4	1		

9			8		2		6
	6	8	1				5
			6	7		8	
5						9	
3			6		8		2
	8						1
	9		8	1			
8				2	6	4	
7		2	3				8

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

Across

- 1 Dovetails
- 5 Fritter away
- 10 Door frame
- 14 Lot size, often
- 15 Early Andes dweller
- 16 Two-piece cookie
- 17 Cheer on
- 18 Fence crossover
- 19 Commuter vehicles
- 20 Hold out
- 22 Anthology
- 24 Greedy sort
- 25 Writer — Seton
- 26 Has a financial meltdown (2 wds.)
- 30 Wrapping paper
- 35 Mdse. bill
- 36 Fall veggie
- 37 Jazzman — Blake
- 38 Fidelity to fact
- 41 Big exam
- 43 Fills the hull
- 44 Cohort of Boris and Bela
- 45 Sugar amt.
- 46 Yukon transport
- 47 Canopy supports
- 50 Applications
- 53 Ms. Hagen of films
- 54 Radical
- 58 Glossy fabric
- 62 Sphagnum moss
- 63 Throw lava

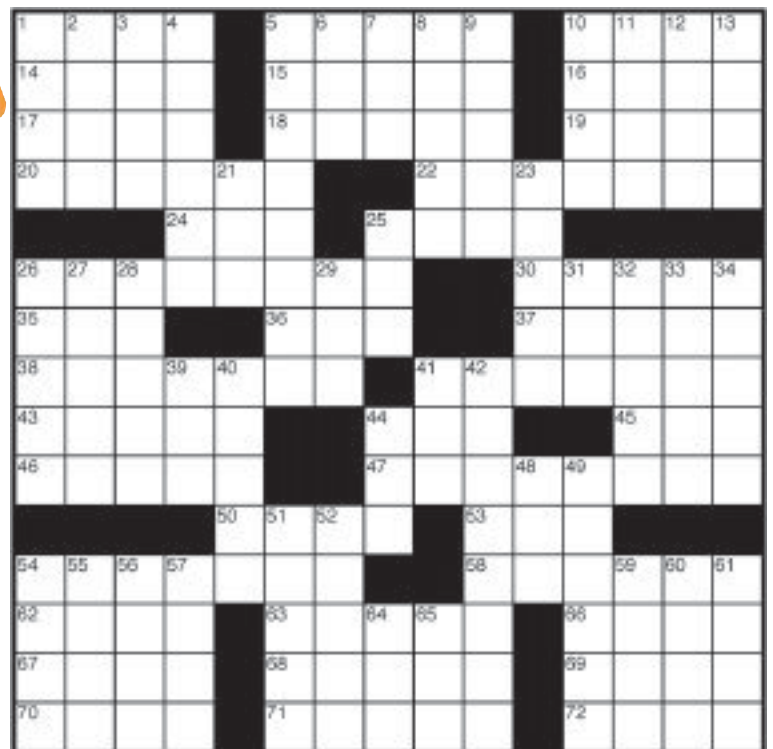
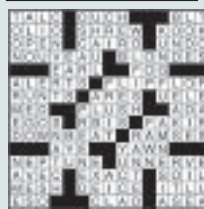
Down

- 1 Get along
- 2 Mouse target?
- 3 Walked heavily
- 4 Sting operations
- 5 Smart alecks (2 wds.)
- 6 Formic acid producer
- 7 — fi flick
- 8 Prey grabber
- 9 Us, to Pogo
- 10 Rock's Bon —
- 11 Mighty steed
- 12 Waiter's offering
- 13 Top dog
- 21 Barbecue tidbit
- 23 Ready to streak
- 25 24-hr. cashier
- 26 Barrette buyers
- 27 Tatam or Ryan
- 28 Hem and haw
- 29 "Play it again, —"
- 31 Groove
- 32 Eggs on
- 33 Before anything else
- 34 Office subs

- 39 Pioneer
- 40 Hot topic
- 41 "Simpsons" bartender
- 42 Diligence
- 44 FedEx units
- 48 School org.
- 49 Wayne genre
- 51 Aroma
- 52 Chilling
- 54 Larger-than-life
- 55 Warrior princess
- 56 Earmarks
- 57 Road map info
- 59 McClurg of sitcoms
- 60 Cal Tech grad
- 61 Apollo acronym
- 64 Sporty truck
- 65 — diem



Yesterday's answer



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BELICHICK KEEPS WINNING, THE COUNTRY KEEPS HATING

Opinion

MATT BURKE

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in each other's faces, giggle for 20 minutes, and then Belichick would don a crown and carry a golden scepter before being hailed as the undisputed greatest mind in the history of team sport.

But Belichick doesn't play the mainstream game. He is a grump who would rather curl up on the couch, watch "My Cousin Vinny" for the 5,500th time and eat a container of Ben & Jerry's Cherry Garcia before going to any sort of NFL-sponsored, waste-of-time



Bill Belichick congratulates Darrelle Revis this past Sunday in Glendale, Arizona. / GETTY IMAGES

"gala."

That is the main reason why people are hesitant to, as a lesser football mind once said, "crown his ass."

New England fans are beginning to get it, though. They're starting to "embrace the hate" in the way that Oakland fans loved the '70s Raiders and Detroit fans loved the late-'80s Pistons. It's starting to become an enjoyable activity, this "being hated"

thing.

When the NFL releases its findings on "Deflategate" on the first Friday of the NCAA tournament at 4:30 in the afternoon next month and slaps Belichick and the Pats on the wrist with a small fine, the millions of Belichick haters will cry "I told ya so" on message boards across the Internet. For these people, it won't matter in the least that the NFL has little proof. The haters will

just say that Belichick is hiding so much more and that Goodell burned the tapes for his buddy Bob Kraft.

But if you're honest with yourself, you know. You recognize that no other football coach has ever had this much success with this much roster turnover. You ignore the noise, and you know that no one in the history of football is better than Belichick.

This first: Bill Belichick is the greatest football coach of all-time. I 100 percent believe this.

Second: Two weeks ago I received some "friendly" emails from Patriots honks who said I was being totally unfair by saying Bill Belichick's reputation as a football coach was forever tarnished.

Well, here's the deal: In Boston, Belichick's reputation is gold. He is the modern-day Red Auerbach in terms of acumen. He is loved in the way Larry Bird was once loved because of his similar antiauthority and "go against the grain" mentality and personality.

But across the rest of the country, despite having won his fourth Super Bowl ring as HC of the NEP on Sunday night, his name remains mud. There will always be a "yeah, but" associated with his name despite mounting evidence that he didn't know a thing about deflated footballs in the AFC title game and the fact that spying on opponents' hand signals on the sidelines was once as common a football practice as running the ball when you're at the 1-yard line.

Now, if Belichick had Pete Carroll's personality, he would go on Jimmy Fallon this evening, they would splash some water

3 SPORTS

NBA Nets reject Denver's offer

The Nets rejected the Nuggets' offer of Ja-Vale McGee, J.J. Hickson and a first-round pick for Brook Lopez, according to an ESPN report. Lopez has one year and \$16.7 million remaining on his contract. The Feb. 19 NBA trade deadline is rapidly approaching and Brooklyn has been very active in shopping Lopez.

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NHL power rankings | by Rich Slate

No. 1



Predators (32-11-6)

The Predators apparently are indestructible as they remain atop the NHL with backup goaltender Carter Hutton taking over for the injured Pekka Rinne. This is part of the reason why head coach Peter Laviolette will be the favorite for Coach of the Year if he keeps this up.

No. 2



Blues (32-13-4)

The Blues are the hottest team in the NHL — they've won their last five games in a row — so they deserve to be up here. Also, they are tied with the Blackhawks for best goal-differential (+40) in the league. They have two huge home games this week vs. Tampa Bay and Chicago.

No. 3



Ducks (32-12-6)

Anaheim drops down two spots from last week since they have lost their last two games. The Ducks are still 7-3-0 in their past 10 but their goal-differential is only +13, surprising given their record. They host Carolina on Tuesday before a five-game road trip.

No. 4



Lightning (32-13-4)

The top team in the East continues to roll along. The Lightning have won their last two games and they are 7-3-0 in the past 10. Tampa Bay is only .500 on the road this season and they are at St. Louis and Dallas this week before home games vs. L.A. and Anaheim.

No. 5



Red Wings (25-12-4)

No one has paid any attention to them, but the Red Wings are putting together a great season. They're 8-2-0 in their last 10 games and only one point behind Tampa Bay in the division. They don't play another home game for nearly two weeks, though.

No. 6



Canadiens (32-16-1)

Despite their 3-2 loss to Arizona on Sunday, Montreal has been playing well (6-3-1 in the last 10 games). They're tied with Detroit and it's all thanks to Carey Price (27-10-2, 2.03 goals against average, .933 save percentage, 4 shutouts), who was named the NHL's No. 1 star of the week.

No. 7



Islanders (32-16-1)

The Islanders faltered last week, losing two straight games to the Bruins and Red Wings—two other contenders in the East. New York is second in the conference and 6-4-0 in their past 10 games. Six of their next seven are against non-playoff teams.

No. 8



B'Hawks (31-17-2)

Chicago was blanked 2-0 at San Jose on Saturday, something which rarely happens. The Blackhawks are treading water here (5-5 in their past 10 games). They have three road games this week (at Minnesota, Winnipeg and St. Louis) before they return home Monday.



Visit **Metro.us** to see where the Rangers and Devils measure up in our rankings.

NCAA

LB Lewis lands at Rutgers

Rutgers got a major boost to an already solid recruiting class as Metro New York has learned of the verbal commitment made by South Carolina junior linebacker Kaiwan Lewis. Eligible for a final year as a transfer player, Lewis committed to the Scarlet Knights on Sunday morning following his official visit.

A native of Hammonton, New Jersey, and a former three-star recruit, Lewis spent the past three seasons at South Carolina where he almost immediately integrated himself into their two-deep. By his sophomore year, he had earned a starting role with the SEC program. He comes to Rutgers as a scholarship player with one season left of eligibility.

KRISTIAN DYER

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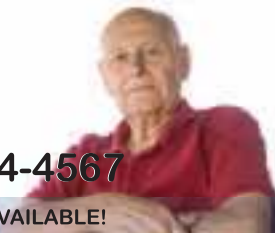
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Legal Notices

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